

CONFERENCE OF CIRCUIT COURT CLERKS
CHILD SUPPORT INCENTIVE FUNDS COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)

Issue Date: March 1, 2008
Proposals Due: March 31, 2008

General Information

Maryland entities who have Cooperative Reimbursement Agreements with the Child Support Enforcement Administration (CSEA) also receive Child Support Incentive Funds to use for activities approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The Maryland Judiciary receives Incentive Funds to support its enforcement activities. The Child Support Incentive Funds Committee oversees the administration of these funds with approval from the Conference of Circuit Court Clerks.

The Child Support Incentive Fund Committee is requesting applications for Incentive Fund Project Grants. Subject to the receipt of funds from CSEA, grants will be awarded to applicable programs which enhance the Maryland Judiciary's effectiveness in establishing and enforcing child support orders.

Grants made to local governments will be paid on a reimbursement basis only. For grants made to Clerk's Offices, expenditures will be paid directly from incentive funds.

Funding Priorities

Applications submitted should depict projects that satisfy a demonstrated need within the community that is to be served. *Incentive Funds must be used to supplement, not supplant funds used by the State to carry out IV-D (child support) program activities.* Maryland law provides the following categories of activities for which Incentive Funds may be used:

- Privatizing and outsourcing of child support enforcement services;
- Improving automation capabilities;
- Creating public awareness projects;
- Developing programs and special projects;
- Establishing a performance incentive program to provide incentives for employees;
- Assisting in staff development and training; and
- Establishing community outreach programs and activities.

Eligible Grantees

Project Applications may be submitted by:

- The Incentive Funds Committee;
- The Conference of Circuit Court Clerks;
- An individual Clerk of the Circuit Court;
- Court administrators;
- Family support services coordinators or family division administrators;
- Judges and masters; or
- Any person or entity in the Judicial Branch of State Government.

Funding Cycle

Grant awards will be made to fund projects during the period from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. The availability of funds for this program is contingent upon the provision of funds by CSEA to the Maryland Judiciary.

CSEA Approval

Some expenditures may require the prior approval of the Maryland Child Support Enforcement Administration or, in some cases, the federal child support office. Once an award is made the Child Support Incentive Fund committee will work with the grantee to secure the necessary approvals.

Application Instructions

Applications are due on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 31, 2008, and should be directed to:

Pamela Cardullo Ortiz, Executive Director
Family Administration
Administrative Office of the Courts
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401

Submit **one original plus nine copies**. Faxed copies of the application will not be accepted.

For further information regarding this notice of funding or the application process, please contact Pamela Cardullo Ortiz at 410.260.1580.